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U.S. EPA REGION 6
PROPOSED PLAN AND PUBLIC COMMENT MEETING
FOR THE WILCOX OIL COMPANY SUPERFUND SITE
JULY 10, 2018,
6:00 TO 7:00 P.M.

HELD AT: BRISTOW PUBLIC LIBRARY
111 WEST 7TH AVENUE
BRISTOW, OKLAHOMA 74010

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COURT REPORTER: LINDA FISHER, CSR-RPR

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KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: Good evening,
everybody. I think we'll go ahead and get started. It
looks like most everyone is here this evening.

I want to thank everybody for coming out and joining
us this evening for this meeting. My name is Katrina
Higgins-Coltrain. I am the project -- the EPA project
manager for this site.

Also with me this evening is Mr. Todd Downham. He's
the ODEQ project manager for the site. I just want to let
everybody know we have a court reporter here this evening.

she's going to be recording everything including any
comments or questions that you have about the plan. So I
respectfully request that if you do have a comment or have
a concern or question, that you just speak up so that she
can hear you and she can record that.

So we are here this evening to talk about the source
control proposed plan. Many of you are familiar with the

19 Wilcox site. This is only one step in the process to get
20 us closer to final site completion.

21 So I want everybody to remember what we're talking
22 about here is we're just talking about source materials.
23 We're not talking about the entire site. We still have
24 work to do. We still have investigations, and samples to
25 take and reports to complete.

4

1 But what we want to do here is we want to remediate
2 some things early in the process before we're totally
3 finished with the site investigation and the documents.
4 Okay? So we'll just start there and move forward.

5 So we're going to talk a little bit about the
6 background of the site, where we are today, what
7 information we've gathered so far. We want to talk with
8 you about the cleanup alternatives that we looked at for
9 the source materials.

10 And we also want to let you know what our preferred
11 alternative is for addressing those source materials. The
12 last thing we want to know is, we want to know your
13 comments, your concerns about what we're proposing to do.

14 There are some resources available to you. At the
15 back of the room, these slides have been printed. So

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16 please get a copy, take those with you. We've also got
17 copies of the proposed plan itself for you to take home
18 and read.

19 There are additional documents here in the library.
20 We call it the administrative record. But those documents
21 include things like the site sampling plan. They include
22 our data packages, and all of the work that we've done to
23 help us in supporting this decision.

24 There are also two web sources for you. DEQ has a
25 web page on Wilcox. EPA has a web page on Wilcox as well,

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1 so if you would rather see the documents electronically,
2 you can visit these websites, and see those.

3 So the comment period for this proposed plan started
4 June 28th. It will run through the end of July. So today
5 you can submit oral comments. The court reporter will
6 document those for us.

7 You can also submit them written. At the back of
8 the proposed plan, there is a page for you to submit your
9 written comment if you would like to do that tonight. Or
10 you can do that through mail, or through email through
11 July 31st. All right.

12 All of these comments are going to be compiled and
13 responded to in a final decision document. All right. So

14 about the site. The site is in Central Oklahoma just
15 northeast of Bristow. It is the location of a former oil
16 refinery.

17 It started operation in 1915, lasted till about
18 1963. At this point, we are investigating a total of
19 about 140 to 150 acres. The site consisted of two
20 processing facilities: The Lorraine facility and the
21 Wilcox facility. The site was finally listed on the
22 National Priorities List in December of 2013. And that's
23 when EPA got formally involved with the site
24 investigation.

25 So as you can see, the Superfund Process is a long

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6

1 process. There are multiple steps in the Superfund
2 Process. A lot of times these steps are taken linearly.
3 We are currently in the investigation stage.

4 Many of you have seen us out at the site taking
5 samples. We've been there many times. We're
6 investigating soils, surface water, sediment, sources,
7 air. We're taking a lot of samples because we need to
8 understand the contamination that's present, where is it,
9 how much of it is there, and at what concentrations.

10 So what we're proposing tonight is an early or an

11 interim action for the sources that we've identified. So
12 as you can see, we're in the investigation stage but we've
13 jumped ahead a couple of steps to propose an action early.

14 We have information, and we have data that tell us
15 we need to address these sources. So we're proposing to
16 do them during the investigation rather than waiting until
17 we're done investigating the entire site.

18 So we've got two paths. We're continuing to
19 investigate the site while we propose to address the
20 sources.

21 We separated the site into five different
22 operational areas. There are two processing areas, two
23 tank farms, and a loading dock area where we believe the
24 materials were shipped in and out of the facility.

25 We've used historic aerial maps and sanborn maps

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7

1 to identify some of these interesting features. We also
2 have a nice picture of the facility in operation sometime
3 in the 1950s. So you can see the tanks. You can see the
4 buildings. You can see the ponds. It's pretty
5 interesting.

6 So we've got tanks of various sizes that held raw
7 materials: The crude oil. Tanks that held the refined
8 materials: the benzene, the gasoline, the diesel. We've

9 got oil-water separation ponds, water holding ponds,
10 cooling ponds. We also have the series of buildings in
11 the process area where they actually heated, cracked, and
12 refined the oil materials.

13 So we've been investigating the site in phases.
14 It's a pretty large site, like I said earlier, about 140
15 to 150 acres. During Phase I we were worried about those
16 residential properties that were within the boundary.
17 Those residential properties that were within either the
18 tank farm or the processing area.

19 The first thing that we did is we sampled their
20 water wells. We also sampled the soils immediately around
21 the homes. Data show that the ground water wells are safe
22 to use and that there is no immediate risk associated with
23 the soil.

24 So moving from there, we used geophysics and direct
25 sensing to help us focus in on areas where contamination

8

1 could potentially be located. During Phase II -- that
2 began in 2016 -- we started collecting environmental data.
3 Data where we were actually taking samples and determining
4 concentrations.

5 We sampled the ground water again. We wanted to

6 verify our first run samples. Data still indicate that
7 the water wells are safe to use. We were also interested
8 in the air because there are structures on the site.

9 So we used passive gas and indoor air samples. We
10 sampled three structures. Data tell us that these source
11 materials have the capacity to create vapors that can get
12 into the homes and the buildings at concentrations
13 exceeding screening numbers.

14 All of these structures are vacant so we have no one
15 being exposed at this time. We continued on. We're
16 sampling soils, we're sampling surface water and sediment,
17 and sources.

18 This is the focus for this evening. So the whole
19 time that we've been out at the site, we've been taking
20 samples and we've been taking note of these particular
21 sources.

22 This was an oil refinery. All of these tank
23 locations have associated with them some tank residue or
24 sludge.

25 Also within the processing plant itself, when the

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9

1 gasoline is being refined, they add a lead substance to
2 the gasoline to take out additional impurities and
3 sulfurs. All right? So in this particular instance,

4 we've also found lead residue of exceedingly high
5 concentrations. So that's what we're focusing on.

6 Here are some photos of what we're talking about.
7 So we've identified two distinct sources that we're
8 looking at. The three photos on the left are the tank
9 waste. The tank waste can be found as a tar, oily
10 substance or dark, dry-like substance at the surface.

11 Samples of the tank waste material show high
12 concentrations of -- it's a big word -- polycyclic
13 aromatic hydrocarbons. This is a group of contaminants
14 commonly found in oil products, and refined products,
15 gasoline products.

16 The key contaminant here is benzo(a)pyrene. That is
17 our focus. Benzo(a)pyrene, based on animal studies and
18 some human studies, is a probable carcinogen. So that is
19 our target contaminant. The tank wastes contain
20 benzo(a)pyrene up to 12 milligrams per kilogram.

21 The bottom right picture is a picture of the lead
22 additive area. So this is the residue after the gasoline
23 was refined.

24 So it contains high concentrations of lead.
25 Concentrations of lead range from 43,000 milligrams per

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1 kilogram, parts per million, to up to 105,000 milligrams
2 per kilogram. Very, very high. Very, very toxic.

3 This photograph here also in your proposed plan of
4 materials and on a poster there at the back, if you feel
5 you want to look at that later after the presentation, are
6 the locations of these sources that we've located so far.
7 The blue circles represent the tank waste material. The
8 yellow represents the lead additive area.

9 Now, you'll also note that there's a green circle on
10 this figure. In September and October of last year, we
11 worked with our removal team and they came out and they
12 removed 1,350 tons worth of tank waste material from this
13 location. After the material was removed, clean soils
14 from an off-site location were brought back and the site
15 was revegetated.

16 So that leaves us with nine separate sources that
17 we're proposing to clean up early in the process, Eight
18 tank waste locations and the one lead source location. So
19 why are we proposing this Interim/Early Action?

20 The Interim/Early Action process allows us the
21 opportunity to do cleanup actions earlier when we have
22 information or we have data that show that we should do
23 something. Or if we know, based on our data, that we will
24 have to do something later, why not propose to clean that

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up sooner in the process. So that's what we're doing.

11

1 It allows us to address these sources that could be
2 a potential exposure pathway for humans or for ecological
3 receptors for the environment. Several of these sit right
4 on the creek so there's potential for migration or
5 discharge to the creek. All right?

6 Also because we're only looking at two types of
7 source materials, we were able to look at technologies in
8 a streamlined fashion because we were only dealing with
9 pretty much one type of contamination. We looked at
10 several technologies that involve capping and treatment
11 and excavation.

12 Eventually, what we found, though, is that only two
13 alternatives really satisfied or were usable for our
14 purposes and our source type: Excavation, treatment of
15 the lead area with off-site disposal; or excavation,
16 treatment of the lead area, consolidate those sources and
17 leave them on-site capped with a protective membrane and
18 soil.

19 So the proposed plan talks about three different
20 alternatives. The No Action alternative is always
21 included in the Superfund evaluation. It is the baseline.

22 It is what exists if nothing is done at the site.

23 So basically, the site remains the same, all exposures
24 remain, all potential migration exposure pathways remain
25 the same.

12

1 Alternative 2 at an estimated cost of about \$4.1
2 million is excavation with treatment and off-site
3 disposal. Alternative 3 to the tune of about \$4.6 million
4 is excavation, treatment, consolidation, capping.

5 Both of these alternatives will target the
6 health-based concentrations for lead and benzo(a)pyrene,
7 our target contaminants for the lead additive area, and
8 the tank waste material.

9 We're going to target 800 milligrams per kilogram
10 for lead. And we're going to target 0.11 milligrams per
11 kilogram for benzo(a)pyrene.

12 How do we know which alternative to select or to
13 present? Well, we have nine evaluation criteria. We use
14 the nine evaluation criteria to take each one of the
15 remedies and compare against each other.

16 The remedies must satisfy the threshold criteria.
17 They must be protective of human health and the
18 environment. And they must meet state and federal
19 regulations. That's the only way we can consider them.

20 The next group is the balancing criteria. This is
21 where we look at the alternatives and we say, Okay,
22 alternatives, how do you fit with long-term permanence and
23 protectiveness?

24 How hard is it for me to implement you as a remedy
25 compared to this guy? How much do you cost compared to

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1 this guy? What kind of protection will I have if I
2 implement this remedy over this remedy? So we're looking
3 at trade-offs between the remedies to identify which one
4 is the best for the site.

5 And then the third is you. This is where we want
6 your review and your comments on what we propose for the
7 source materials.

8 So how do the alternatives stack up against each
9 other? Both alternatives have to meet the threshold
10 criteria so they both are protective of human health and
11 environment and they meet the federal regulations.

12 Both of the alternatives will take the lead source
13 material and treat it. One difference between the two is
14 where the sources will remain in perpetuity.

15 So what is the final disposition or displacement of
16 the source materials. Under Alternative 2, the source
17 materials will be removed from the site and sent off to a

18 regulated, permitted disposal facility, a landfill.

19 In Alternative 3, the source materials will be
20 consolidated on-site. They'll be covered with a
21 protective membrane and capped with soil. They will
22 remain on-site forever.

23 The estimated time to complete and estimated costs
24 are relatively the same, only two months estimated
25 difference between the two, and about \$500,000 difference

14

1 in cost. It's relatively the same.

2 So what's the next big difference between the two?
3 Land use restrictions. Under Alternative 2, because we're
4 not totally complete with the site, remember, we're doing
5 two parallel paths. We still need to investigate the site
6 so we're not totally finished. This is an early action.

7 So because we don't know the full extent or the full
8 risk of exposures, there's limited restrictions in what
9 can be done on the property. And those are only going to
10 be limited up until we have a final decision.

11 For Alternative 3, land use restrictions will be
12 forever. We need to make sure that the capped material
13 stays protective, nobody builds on it, nobody digs in it,
14 nobody messes with it.

15 Certain land uses can't be implemented. For
16 example, you can't build a residence on it. You probably
17 can't build a facility on it. It all depends on, you
18 know, how we build the cap. But there will be
19 restrictions because of the waste.

20 We will have to look at the remedies because we're
21 not done under Alternative 2. You know, we're still
22 ongoing, we don't have a final site wide remedy. This is
23 only early in the process. Five-year reviews will be
24 forever for Alternative 3.

25 But the second or third major difference between the

15

1 two is operation and maintenance. Because the source
2 materials will be removed from the site and placed in an
3 off-site regulated, permitted facility, there will be no
4 perpetual maintenance.

5 We won't have to come in and repair the cap. We
6 won't have to maintain a fence. We won't have to maintain
7 land use restrictions which will be required under
8 Alternative 3.

9 So the preferred alternative: Alternative 2. We
10 would like to propose excavation, treatment of the lead
11 area with off-site disposal at an estimated cost of about
12 \$4.1 million. The total estimated volume is about 30,000

13 cubic yards which comes to an estimated five acres worth,
14 if you add up all the areas that we're talking about.

15 So the preferred alternative is to take the source
16 material, remove it from the site, dispose of it in a
17 permitted regulated facility.

18 Benefits: What are the benefits of this
19 alternative? Under this alternative we will be addressing
20 nine separate source areas, the eight tank waste source
21 areas, and the one lead source area.

22 We'll eliminate at least five migration pathways to
23 the creek. We'll also address locations on at least four
24 different residential properties. By doing this, we also
25 reduce the overall risk to human health and the

16

1 environment.

2 So what future work remains? So right now, this is
3 the proposed plan. After review of the data and the
4 technologies, we propose to you Alternative 2:
5 Excavation, Treatment, and Offsite Disposal.

6 Until July 31st, the proposed plan is available to
7 you to review and comment. You submit your comments to
8 us. We'll review those comments, respond to those
9 comments, and make a final decision in what we'll call the

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Source Control Decision Document.

10
11 Once we have a decision document and we know what
12 our cleanup alternative will be, it will have to go
13 through a design phase. There we'll have to knock out some
14 of the details. We'll have to identify the landfill,
15 we'll have to identify the transporter, we'll have to
16 identify the subcontractor, we'll have to work out some
17 details with equipment, planning, time frame, and that
18 sort of thing.

19 Once we have all that figured out, we have a
20 timeline and a schedule, then we're ready for
21 implementation. Our target time frame, 2019, 2020. At
22 the same time that we're doing this work, we're still in
23 the investigation stage.

24 We're still finalizing all of our data. Right now
25 we're compiling that information. We're looking at it and

17

1 understanding the nature and extent. We're completing our
2 reports. We're also looking at the potential risks that
3 these contaminants may pose to human health and the
4 environment. So there are still several steps to go
5 before we've completed our site wide investigation.

6 So with that, this is our contact information, also
7 the last slide in your packet. Thank you for coming. Any

8 questions? Todd and I will try to answer those for you.
9 Just, if you would, please, speak up so she can document
10 your comment for us.

11 TODD DOWNHAM: Please state your name
12 before you state your question as long as you want it on
13 the record.

14 ROY WHITE: I'm Roy White. I lived on
15 Ground Zero for about 30 years. I have gotten poisoned
16 from that site. And I am now disabled because of the
17 chemical poisoning. And it is documented.

18 I want to say something here. 15 feet down, y'all
19 went 15 feet down with a core sample. And it was
20 contaminated all the way down. How would that be cleaned
21 up with an excavator? 15 feet down.

22 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: We're not --

23 ROY WHITE: Think about it.

24 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: Right.

25 ROY WHITE: That would have to be mining

18

1 equipment, large-scale mining equipment, to come in as
2 strip mining.

3 TODD DOWNHAM: There are specific equipment
4 that you can go down 15 -- it's called a long arm

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5 excavator. We've done it before on other sites, to answer
6 that specific question.

7 ROY WHITE: Would it be just those little
8 spots, or will it be the whole area?

9 TODD HARRIS: Well, and what we're talking
10 about here is specific areas that aren't necessarily that
11 deep. So these are -- tend to be in the eight to -- five
12 to eight feet range.

13 So when we do -- when we did our investigations, we
14 do go down to deeper depths. But what we're proposing in
15 this proposed plan is once we get into the details of the
16 actual planning phase, we're not anticipating going --
17 we're going as deep as we need to go to address everything
18 in those blue areas.

19 So -- but to answer your question, we can go 15 feet
20 down. We've done it before.

21 ROY WHITE: What about the water table
22 throughout Bristow and Wilcox Refinery? It's all the same
23 water table.

24 TODD DOWNHAM: That's a long conversation
25 to have about ground water. And we're also still in the

19

1 phase of investigating ground water on the site.

2 ROY WHITE: Because I know the wells up

3 there on property are bad.

4 TODD DOWNHAM: We have sampled everybody's
5 well. For two years before EPA sampled anybody's well, I
6 personally sampled everybody's well every three months for
7 two years.

8 We never saw any issues with anybody's well, their
9 drinking water. So but we still have to -- we still have
10 to do some investigation on the site to --

11 ROY WHITE: So the wells there on the
12 White's property is good, you're saying?

13 TODD DOWNHAM: There is no well -- there is
14 no drinking water well on the White's property.

15 ROY WHITE: There's two of them.

16 TODD DOWNHAM: They're not being --

17 ROY WHITE: We use the city water but there
18 are two wells there.

19 TODD DOWNHAM: When we started our
20 investigation and up until currently, there is nobody
21 drinking the ground water on the White's property.

22 ROY WHITE: No, there is no one drinking it
23 now, but there are two wells there. And it is in the
24 reservoir. And they are bad. You've stated that it was
25 bad.

1 TODD DOWNHAM: We are in the process -- we
2 haven't fully investigated ground water on the site.
3 We're talking about two different things here. So we're
4 talking about what we still need to do is for -- you know,
5 the private water wells on the site are much deeper.
6 We're talking 110, 120 feet deep. They're pulling water
7 from a different zone than --

8 ROY WHITE: So you're saying this
9 contamination is that deep?

10 TODD DOWNHAM: No, that's not what I'm
11 saying. I'm saying that I have sampled -- we've sampled
12 everyone's drinking water for --

13 ROY WHITE: The church water. They was
14 using that well at one time. And it did have black stuff
15 in the well.

16 TODD DOWNHAM: And again, there's nobody
17 drinking the water on that property; so...

18 ROY WHITE: Not now.

19 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: And you said 20 foot
20 down.

21 ROY WHITE: But at one time, they did.

22 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: That was pulling gallons
23 off of his well.

24 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: That, the well

25 that had oil in it has been plugged and abandoned. So

21

1 there is no one using that well.

2 ROY WHITE: Right. But it's still in the

3 reservoir.

4 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: The residential

5 water wells are safe to use. The source control, what

6 we're talking about are these distinct locations. We're

7 not proposing a site wide cleanup.

8 We still have work to do. We still need to

9 understand the extent of the contamination that you are

10 referring to specifically in the process areas.

11 The process areas are complex. The process areas

12 contain both raw materials, refined materials, and waste

13 materials. So we've got gasoline issues, diesel issues,

14 coke issues.

15 ROY WHITE: So in digging the dirt, what's

16 to keep this dust debris from blowing over Bristow or any

17 other areas that people live in?

18 TODD DOWNHAM: When we do this type of

19 work, we take measures to prevent dust issues, whether

20 it's --

21 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Like Collinsville?

22 TODD DOWNHAM: -- spraying water down to
23 keep the dust down. That's -- those are all details that
24 we work out in the design phase.

25 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Like Collinsville?

22

1 TODD DOWNHAM: We do air monitoring. We
2 make sure that -- we realize dust can be a problem so we
3 take measures to prevent that.

4 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: And you're saying from
5 2013. I've pulled up reports from 1989 from the EPA off
6 of the internet showing thallium, arsenic, radium, and
7 everything else out on these properties. Why weren't the
8 people informed of it?

9 ROY WHITE: That's what I was asking about
10 is everything safe.

11 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: We are here to get the
12 people to help.

13 TODD DOWNHAM: 1989?

14 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yes. And I'll put them
15 on a Facebook page for people to see. And they are
16 documented from y'all and signed off.

17 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: We also have
18 reports on our web page. We also have reports available

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19 for you here in the library to look at. During the

20 investigation process, data are collected, and the data
21 are collected in order to determine whether the site needs
22 to be placed on the National Priorities List.

23 So what I can speak to is that since 2013 -- I
24 became the project manager in 2015 -- we have been working
25 to try to address the issues here at the property. So I

23

1 cannot speak to what happened in the past.

2 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: What I'm seeing --

3 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: But we are
4 trying to address what we're finding currently.

5 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: So what I'm seeing is
6 y'all are milking the flock.

7 TODD DOWNHAM: Ma'am, --

8 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: You all have got
9 documents from 1989 until now. And you didn't go
10 backwards and check? Someone ain't doing their homework.
11 There was thallium that got banned in 1975 on the White's
12 property and thallium got banned in the United States.

13 TODD DOWNHAM: The first report the DEQ
14 produced on that site is from 1994; so...

15 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Well, I've got reports
16 showing it.

17 TODD DOWNHAM: Okay.

18 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: And people signing off on
19 it.

20 TODD DOWNHAM: So we're in the process of
21 investigation the site to understand the risks that are
22 present so we can come up with a plan to address those
23 risks. That's why we're here tonight.

24 So the site sat for many years without anything
25 happening to it. And DEQ didn't always exist. You didn't

24

1 always have --

2 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: You should have got all
3 these people off the property when you found it out, every
4 single one of them. They should not ever have been out
5 there on that property. A bunch of my friends are dying
6 from this shit. Sorry for the language.

7 TODD DOWNHAM: Anybody has a right to buy a
8 piece of property and move onto it. There aren't --

9 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: We would really like to
10 know what's on there before we move out there.

11 TODD DOWNHAM: That is part of a larger
12 discussion. And it has to do with -- there's a lot more
13 things to talk about with regard to that.

14 ROY WHITE: \$350,000 homes.
15 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yeah.
16 TODD DOWNHAM: There are sites across the
17 state that we are in the process of investigating.
18 There are sites we haven't discovered yet; so...
19 ROY WHITE: If they had told me back then
20 -- if they would have told me back then, these people
21 wouldn't have been on there, and built \$250,000 homes.
22 And now I've got this problem in my system. I'm not able
23 to do -- work anymore.
24 TODD DOWNHAM: I understand your
25 frustration.

25

1 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: That (indiscernible) boy,
2 you told him he could stay out there; it was perfectly
3 safe. You did.
4 TODD DOWNHAM: Ma'am, I believe you're
5 misspeaking. But we can talk afterwards, if you'd like.
6 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: No. We want to have it
7 on the record.
8 TODD DOWNHAM: Well, okay.
9 ROY WHITE: But that's all right.
10 TODD DOWNHAM: Okay. There are answers to
11 everything you're speaking of. But we would like to keep

12 the focus to specific questions, which is our plan this
13 evening. Some of these questions have complex answers
14 that this may not be the right place to discuss them, but
15 so...

16 ROY WHITE: My dad has worked for the Corps
17 of Engineers. I practically lived in the Corps of
18 Engineers building when he was -- when he worked with the
19 Corps of Engineers. I know you start stirring up things
20 up there it's going to be a mudhole.

21 TODD DOWNHAM: That's right. We --

22 ROY WHITE: And you cannot --

23 TODD DOWNHAM: -- and we take measures to
24 prevent any dust or migrations that would affect adjacent
25 properties or any of the public. We take extensive safety

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1 precautions to prevent that. The workers on the site, the
2 public. We monitor the air.

3 We take a lot of measures to prevent air
4 (indiscernible). We work with the community. It's a very
5 detailed process. I can assure you of that.

6 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: Anyone else have
7 questions?

8 MICHAEL BLASCHKE: I just have three

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9 questions kind of interrelated.

10 TODD DOWNHAM: Please state your name, sir.

11 MICHAEL BLASCHKE: I am Michael Blaschke,
12 B-l-a-s-c-h-k-e. I am counsel for some of the families
13 that formerly did move on the site.

14 Source, I take it that means that you've identified
15 the source of all the pollution? Is that what that word
16 means here in this context?

17 TODD DOWNHAM: When you say "all the
18 pollution," you mean all the pollution on site?

19 MICHAEL BLASCHKE: The source of all the
20 contaminants came from these things you're cleaning up.
21 Is that what that word means? I'm -- it's really just a
22 technical question I'm trying to understand.

23 TODD DOWNHAM: "Source" meaning a defined
24 area that --

25 MICHAEL BLASCHKE: Are there other source

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1 areas?

2 TODD DOWNHAM: Potentially, yes.

3 MICHAEL BLASCHKE: Okay.

4 TODD DOWNHAM: But we're still in the
5 process of --

6 MICHAEL BLASCHKE: Understood.

7 TODD DOWNHAM: -- investigating the first
8 site.

9 MICHAEL BLASCHKE: Table 3 -- I'm terrible
10 at arithmetic -- but it looks like your lead table is 131
11 times what you would like it to be, roughly?

12 TODD DOWNHAM: We're talking about
13 industrial or residential lead levels; is that what you
14 mean?

15 MICHAEL BLASCHKE: Yeah, it's Table 3. You
16 list the health-based screening, that was 800. And the
17 data results are 105,000. I simply did the math. It's
18 131 times too high.

19 TODD DOWNHAM: Okay. That's probably
20 right.

21 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: Yes. The lead
22 concentrations are extremely high. We're talking, in this
23 particular context, probably percent lead.

24 We should probably talk about percent lead rather
25 than concentration. And we are very concerned about these

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1 concentrations because it's not even safe for an
2 industrial worker to be in the area without some type of
3 respiratory protection.

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4 MICHAEL BLASCHKE: And I understand that
5 105 was only the highest one found. It may vary a little.

6 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: That was the
7 highest.

8 MICHAEL BLASCHKE: Your benzopyrene --
9 again I'm not good with arithmetic -- but it looks to be
10 100 times what it should be, .11 times 100?

11 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: It is two orders
12 of magnitude larger.

13 MICHAEL BLASCHKE: 800.

14 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: So we're talking
15 about a cleanup level of .1. And we have concentrations
16 of 12. So, yes, we have high concentrations.

17 MICHAEL BLASCHKE: And my last question --
18 these really are questions based on ignorance -- is
19 looking on page 7, first full paragraph right inside,
20 "Results for samples collected from the tank waste are as
21 high..." as blah, blah, blah.

22 "These wastes are not identified as listed hazardous
23 wastes and data results indicate that the tank waste is
24 not a characteristic hazardous waste."

25 I don't understand that.

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1 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: Okay. These are

2 regulatory terms.

3 MICHAEL BLASCHKE: I thought so.

4 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: The resource --

5 Resource Conservation Recovery --

6 MICHAEL BLASCHKE: Resource Conservation

7 Recovery Act.

8 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: Act. Yes.

9 Sorry. RCRA. I'm used to acronyms, never spelling them
10 out.

11 Under RCRA, they have promulgated and passed what
12 they call listed hazardous waste. So no matter where you
13 find this material, it is designated by law as a hazardous
14 waste.

15 If you have a hazardous waste, it can only be
16 disposed of in a regulated and permitted hazardous waste
17 landfill. So the waste that we have is not a listed
18 regulatory hazardous waste. So we're not bound by
19 disposing of the material in a hazardous waste landfill.

20 Now, the second piece of that is that there are
21 certain restrictions on disposing of waste, what they call
22 land ban restrictions. So there are certain criteria that
23 your wastes have to meet in order to be disposed in one of
24 these facilities. 261.24 I think is the number.

25 So the second step that or hurdle that you have to

1 cross is that you sample your waste, and it must meet the
2 criteria for toxicity, radioactivity, combustion, and
3 radioactivity. So we're not radioactive. We're not
4 combustible.

5 What we're busting is toxicity. Because the lead in
6 the lead additive area will leach or dissolve out of the
7 solid phase. And what we have to do is we have to treat
8 that material so the lead does not leach out.

9 We have to solidify it and make a solid cohesive
10 material out of it. So that's done through stabilization,
11 solidification. That's just a big term for saying we're
12 going to turn something that's granular or liquid into
13 something solid.

14 And we do that simply by adding cement or lime or
15 fly ash, something as simple as that that will bind the
16 lead and keep it from leaching out or dissolving out from
17 the solid material.

18 MICHAEL BLASCHKE: So the fact that these
19 wastes are not listed in a technical sense has nothing to
20 do with their toxicity or lack of toxicity?

21 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: Correct.

22 MICHAEL BLASCHKE: Thank you.

23 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: It is just a
24 regulatory term for disposal.

25 MICHAEL BLASCHKE: Okay. That's all I

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1 have. Thank you.

2 BOB JACKMAN: My name is Bob Jackman. I'm
3 a geologist from Tulsa. But this is kind of a backyard
4 hometown to me.

5 Whose -- is it EPA's responsibility -- we hear we
6 have toxic materials here. No question about it. You've
7 identified them. You didn't cause them, but you have
8 identified them.

9 Is it your responsibility to advise this community
10 to have, like, the Oklahoma Department of Health to run
11 tests? Do we have cancer anomalies clusters here?

12 What is the current health hazards caused -- being
13 caused by this site, which you did not cause which you're
14 trying to clean up. But is there sufficient -- isn't
15 there -- isn't there is a question and a statement.

16 Isn't there sufficient information being given to
17 the general public as to what exactly can happen with
18 contamination by lead? You've got one particular type of
19 benzoid.

20 There's another type or two. So that's my question.

21 Who is responsible to be advising the health risks that
22 are being incurred right now today until 2020 when you are
23 completely finished?

24 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: I'm not a
25 physician. I cannot advise you based on your health

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1 concerns. That is between you and your doctor.
2 I do have a contact for the Agency for Toxic Substances and
3 Disease Registry that you can talk with, and we can also get
4 you a contact with the Oklahoma Department of Health. Now,
5 what we have tried to do in this particular instance is
6 post the information, as soon as we get it, to our web
7 page. We've held conversations with the property owners
8 on a regular basis. And we've also come out here on a
9 routine basis to share with you what we're finding.

10 As mentioned earlier, we still have investigation to
11 do and we still have the risk assessment to do. The risk
12 assessment will give us more information about the
13 potential risks that these contaminants are posing based
14 on certain exposures and based on location.

15 BOB JACKMAN: Should you have a
16 representative from the Oklahoma Department of Health at
17 these community hearings?

18 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: We have had
19 agency representatives here and the Oklahoma Department of
20 Health representatives here at a couple of meetings.

21 BOB JACKMAN: Thank you.

22 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: Any more
23 questions?

24 STACY MARTIN: Yeah. My name is Stacy
25 Martin. Over on 8th Street, there's a bridge that they

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1 took out. And if I recall, they had to remove all the
2 dirt, because it was contaminated, and bring new dirt in.

3 Well, that was on that creek. And that creek
4 borders my property on two sides. How am I going to know
5 or when will I know if my property is contaminated?

6 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: We've taken
7 surface water and sediment samples and that's the data
8 that we're trying to work through right now. So as soon
9 as we get information, and we understand what that
10 information means, we will be talking to you.

11 STACY MARTIN: I mean, because, yeah, it's
12 kind of scary.

13 JEFF SARGEANT: I just -- my name is Jeff
14 Sargeant (phonetic). I live here in Bristow. I see in
15 your materials you're going to dig down two feet

16 subsurface, and you're talking about covering up with
17 those materials, fly ash. And I'm just wondering if you'd
18 ever looked at biodegradation technology molecularly to
19 clean this up whereas it fights it kind of like something
20 fights cancer.

21 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: One of the
22 alternatives looked at in the screening process was land
23 farming which is essentially what you're talking about,
24 bioremediation.

25 Bioremediation is effective on organic material so

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1 the tank waste material. It would not be effective on the
2 lead metals materials.

3 The land farming process takes years. And it
4 primarily is more effective when you have soils that are
5 contaminated with organics rather than actual source
6 materials like we have here.

7 So there was some question about how effective it
8 would be. And there was a lot of uncertainty related to
9 extent of treatment that would be needed for the tank
10 waste material. And there was question about whether
11 there would be residual that would still have to be
12 managed by disposing of it off-site.

13 JEFF SARGEANT: Okay. Well, it's not all
14 tank waste. And it wouldn't all be the lead. So we've
15 got the benzene and the other chemicals.

16 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: We're not --
17 we're not to that stage yet.

18 JEFF SARGEANT: Okay.

19 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: Right.

20 JEFF SARGEANT: So you may address that in
21 the future?

22 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: Right. So we're
23 still investigating the site which means that there will
24 be another step where we talk about site wide and we talk
25 about a site wide remediation strategy that would address

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1 some of these other contaminated areas.

2 JEFF SARGEANT: Okay. Last I knew, there
3 were 807 plus deaths from cancer when everyone started
4 this back in '13, and your organizations came into this.
5 And those have grown. There's a lot of sick people.

6 Initially, that was at another site. And then you
7 guys went to this site. And so I just wondered if the
8 cancer is going to be addressed at some point.

9 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: Again, I can get
10 you a contact for ATSDR. We can give you contact for

11 Oklahoma Department of Health and let you talk with them
12 about health risks and cancer risks.

13 JEFF SARGEANT: Okay.

14 ELSIE GEORGE: My name is Elsie George. I
15 was wondering where would this material be disposed of,
16 what off-site spot?

17 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: We believe that
18 it will be one of the land fills in Tulsa. When our
19 removal team was out in September and October, they found
20 a landfill in Tulsa that was regulated and permitted and
21 able to accept the waste.

22 So they were successful in removing that material
23 and shipping it to Tulsa, and disposing of it there. So
24 we anticipate that it would be that one or one similar
25 within Tulsa.

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1 DUSTIN TREVOR: Hi. Dustin Trevor
2 (phonetic) with Channel 6. My first question is: How is
3 the waste going to be transported from Bristow to Tulsa?

4 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: It will be
5 transported by truck.

6 DUSTIN TREVOR: Okay. What kind of a
7 truck? Are we talking about an enclosed truck?

8 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: That's one of
9 the details that we'll work through in the design. But
10 the trucks will be decontaminated before they leave the
11 site. The preference and the request will be that they be
12 tarped and contained, and that the drivers have a safe
13 driving record, obviously.

14 DUSTIN TREVOR: And then what do I need to
15 worry about? I'm a resident here. I'm, you know -- until
16 this cleanup plan is put into motion for the next six
17 months, eight months, ten months, what do I need to be
18 worried about as a resident here in Bristow?

19 I mean, you know, how can I sleep soundly tonight?
20 What can you tell me that will help me go to bed tonight
21 until this plan starts?

22 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: These areas are
23 finite in location and they're specific to these
24 locations. We feel like we have them determined both
25 laterally and horizontally. And they are within fenced

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1 areas. So as long as you --

2 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: The grid/rig wasn't in a
3 fenced area.

4 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: That's a
5 separate instance than these nine sources.

6 DUSTIN TREVOR: Thank you, ma'am.

7 PAULA JOHNSON: You're not saying then that
8 you have identified all of the potential contaminants on
9 the site as a whole?

10 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: Correct.

11 PAULA JOHNSON: You're just addressing
12 these specific ones. So there could be a whole host of
13 other potential contaminants.

14 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: Correct.

15 PAULA JOHNSON: And according to this for
16 future work, you're looking at 2019 or 2020 for the
17 completion of this. Do you have any estimate of when your
18 data gathering and investigation will finish on the rest
19 of the site and when you will get a final proposal?

20 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: I do not. Our
21 work is funding dependent. So as we receive funding, we
22 work together with as much information as we can.

23 I do know that we have additional work to do so we
24 do need to look at the ground water. We do need to look
25 at additional soil locations.

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1 We do need to look at our risk assessment. So a
2 process. I expect that it will be sometime after 2020.

3 I'm just not certain.

4 PAULA JOHNSON: On comparable sites, --

5 TODD DOWNHAM: State your name one more

6 time.

7 PAULA JOHNSON: Paula Johnson.

8 TODD DOWNHAM: Can you stand up.

9 PAULA JOHNSON: I'm short. So when I stand

10 up, it doesn't make much difference. On comparable sites

11 just as an estimate, what's your time frame?

12 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: Ten plus years.

13 DENICE ASHLEY: Just a curious question.

14 Since this was listed with the Environmental Protection

15 Agency in 2013, would it have been advised that any

16 properties that were within or around that site, would it

17 have -- would there have been a duty to report that to a

18 consumer? To a buyer? To an investor? Is there any type

19 of standard practice?

20 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: We -- we have

21 had conversations -- we have had conversations with the

22 property owners as long as I've been project manager in

23 2015. I know that since Todd has been working on the

24 site, he has had regular conversations with the property

25 owners.

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1 No new property owners have bought property since
2 we've been working on this site. So we have regular
3 conversations with them and share with them what we're
4 doing, what we're finding.

5 DENICE ASHLEY: So you're referencing
6 within the site, no new properties or no -- nothing has
7 been sold since 2013. But would there have been a duty to
8 share that information by realtors or loan officers that
9 would have -- or is that just way out of -- I mean, this
10 is kind of out of your league as far as your --

11 TODD DOWNHAM: I'm not familiar with the
12 specific real estate disclosure laws.

13 DENICE ASHLEY: Okay.

14 TODD DOWNHAM: But maybe somebody in here
15 is. I don't know.

16 JASON MCKINNEY: I can comment --

17 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: Who -- who are
18 you?

19 JASON MCKINNEY: I'm sorry. I'm Jason
20 McKinney. I'm with the EPA. I can't comment for Oklahoma
21 but I do know in Texas that you -- if your house is
22 sitting on a Superfund Site, you have to disclose that.
23 You can't sell it without that.

24 DENICE ASHLEY: Adjacent to as well?

25 JASON MCKINNEY: I'm sorry?

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1 DENICE ASHLEY: Adjacent to?

2 JASON MCKINNEY: If it's near, yes. I'm
3 not sure what -- I can't say but I do know that you do
4 have to disclose it.

5 TODD DOWNHAM: But is your question more
6 directed to prior to Superfund status?

7 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I just bought mine two
8 and a half years ago.

9 TODD DOWNHAM: Okay. And but you're not on
10 the site, --

11 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: No.

12 TODD DOWNHAM: -- within the site boundary.
13 But are you asking more about before it was --

14 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: No. Well, after 2013.
15 Any sites that would be adjacent to. Because you've
16 already confirmed that basically you're not fully aware of
17 all of the contamination, you're still exploring it, and
18 investigating.

19 And I appreciate all your work. I really do but I
20 do wonder if there's a duty to disclose as a land -- you
21 know, people purchase properties that are adjacent to.

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22 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: We have -- we
23 have regular community meetings and we try to get the word
24 out. I think your question is more specific to state
25 regulations and laws pertaining to buying and selling real

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1 estate, disclosures, and those sorts of things.

2 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you.

3 BETH WRIGHT: My name is Beth Wright.

4 TODD DOWNHAM: Would you state your name
5 one more time, please.

6 BETH WRIGHT: Beth Wright.

7 TODD DOWNHAM: Can you spell your name,
8 please.

9 BETH WRIGHT: My name is Beth Wright,
10 W-r-i-g-h-t. I was just wondering, since this stuff is in
11 the air, how far south do you think these contaminants
12 that you know of so far have gone?

13 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: We've only found
14 these in the structures when we sampled in the structures.
15 We did not find them outside the structures.

16 The structures sometimes will act as a source for
17 concentrating vapors. When you run your air-conditioning
18 and your heater, vapors will get in through migration
19 pathways and up into the home and can concentrate.

20 So we've only found them in the structures. These
21 structures are not occupied. And we did not find them
22 when we did perimeter sampling.

23 BETH WRIGHT: Thank you.

24 KATRINA HIGGINS-COLTRAIN: Anyone else have
25 any questions? All right. Well, thank you for coming.

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1 Please, on the back of your proposed plan here, you
2 will see that there's a sheet. If you want to submit some
3 written comments, please do that. Take a look at some of
4 our photographs here, if you like. Thank you.

5 (Whereupon, the proceedings were concluded.)

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1 CERTIFICATE

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA)
3 COUNTY OF TULSA) ss.

4
5 I, Linda Fisher, a Certified Shorthand
6 Reporter, Registered Professional Reporter, and Notary
7 Public in the State of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that on
8 the 10th day of July, 2018, at the Bristow Public Library,
9 111 West 7th Avenue, Bristow, Oklahoma, the within and
10 foregoing TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC MEETING was reduced to
11 writing by me in stenograph, and thereafter transcribed by
12 me, and is fully and accurately set forth in the preceding
13 pages.

14 I do further certify that I am not related to

EPA PROPOSED PLAN AND PUBLIC COMMENT MEETING, .TXT

15 nor attorney for any of the said parties, nor otherwise
16 interested in the event of said action.

17 WITNESS my hand and official seal this 16th day
18 of July, 2018.

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Linda Fisher, CSR-RPR #866

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